

REMARKS

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner issued a species election based on four diseases recited in the claims: A) multiple sclerosis; B) SLE; C) rheumatoid arthritis; and D) scleroderma. Applicants hereby elect the species of multiple sclerosis. To expedite the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have cancelled all of the pending claims that do not read on this species by canceling Claims 26-28, 30-32, 34-36, and 38-40, without prejudice. As such, all of the pending claims (Claims 25, 29, 33, and 37) read on the elected species.

Parent Application in Litigation and IDS

Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention that the parent application, Serial Number 08/385,194 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,685,941) is currently in litigation. The litigation, which is in the Eastern District of Texas, Marshall Division, is captioned as follows: *Repligen Corporation and the Regents of the University of Michigan v. Bristol-Myers Squibb Company*, Case No.: 2-06-CV-004-TJW. Applicants also note that an information disclosure statement is being prepared for this application and will be filed shortly.

If the Examiner wishes to discuss this case, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned at 608-218-6900 at the Examiner's convenience.

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